



# Ramsey Grammar School

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Hi everyone,

We realise it's all been a bit of a strange end to your Year 11 experience with us and a lot of you are feeling uncertain about both the present and the future. I would like to reassure you in this letter that we are looking out for you, and are confident that this unprecedented situation will not impact negatively on any of your future prospects.

Dealing with the present is a bit more challenging. Courses have, to all intents and purposes, concluded. Teachers have processed your exam results, which will soon be sent to the exam boards. So what should you be doing now?

Here are some suggestions:

## **For everyone**

You should be using some of the time you have at home to put yourself in the best possible position for further education/job interviews when things kick back into action. You could pursue an external online course (also called Massive Open Online Courses or MOOCs) in something you find interesting or in a subject relevant to your future aspirations. Below is a list of some of the best providers we have come across:

[www.edx.org](http://www.edx.org)

[www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com)

[www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses)

For example, if you are interested in Biology (and possibly taking A-level Bio next year), you could undertake a course like [‘How Does the Body Use DNA as a Blueprint?’](#) on Future Learn. Or more generally you could do a skills course such as [‘Basic First Aid: How to Be an Everyday Hero’](#) on the same website. These are great courses and will give you something focus on over the summer.

## **For those coming back to Sixth Form or going to College**

### **1. Revision**

We are not advocating people starting general A Level/Level 3 courses early officially, however, the message would be get prepared! Look into the subjects you want to study and make sure you know what the course involves by looking at the syllabus. I have asked teachers to share resources with you which are relevant to what you would study in the Sixth Form. I know that many subject teachers are already doing this.

If there are any GCSE/Level 2 courses that you need to get into your Level 3 course, then make sure you are revising and consolidating the content you have covered using platforms such as:

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)  
[www.gcsepod.com/](http://www.gcsepod.com/)  
[www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)  
[www.senecalearning.com/](http://www.senecalearning.com/)

## 2. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

In addition to this, you can also undertake a course on one of the websites above in your favourite subject to help compliment your studies and show your commitment to reading around and enriching your knowledge. If you are unsure if a course would be a good one/relevant for your course, you could contact your subject teacher or the head of department and see what they think.

### For those looking to apply for jobs

You could once again use Future Learn to undertake the course 'How to Succeed at Interviews' with the University of Sheffield on Future Learn. This might help you get yourself in the best possible position for an interview. Alternatively, The Isle of Man Job Centre appears to be offering some free online training in Health & Safety, Business, Leadership & Management, Health & Social Care and Child Care. You need to email [jobcentre@gov.im](mailto:jobcentre@gov.im) for further information.

Junior Achievement (JA) is currently working on an initiative with local employers to offer mock job interviews online to students who are about to leave school and are looking for a job. They are reaching out to parents and carers via Facebook and have created the following promotion materials;- <https://vimeo.com/414728159>

JA has also uploaded some of the resources from its 'Get a Job' programme and has uploaded them to the website;- <https://www.jaiom.im/our-programmes/get-a-job-2/>

Further useful guidance can also be found on the DESC Careers Website;- <https://signposts.sch.im>

Please also ask your tutor to put you in contact with Mr Pinnington for further advice on careers. Whatever you are thinking of doing next year we hope you agree that this time you now have can be used really positively to help you get ahead of the game. Please remember to stay in touch. Mr Shimmin, Mr Curran and Mr Wood will be contacting you soon with some thoughts on next steps. I will write to you again directly over the coming weeks, not least to update you on arrangements for Results Day and joining our Sixth Form.

I have asked your tutors and subject teachers to catch up with you on a weekly basis in the meantime, please make sure that you reply to them!

Stay safe everyone,

Mrs Baker